

**Public
Advisory**
706.3

TEEN DRIVING

Plain Talk for Parents

**This Public Advisory is a publication of the
Nassau County Police Department.**

For further information, call the
Nassau County Police Department
Public Information Office
at 516-573-7135.



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Your teenager is READY TO DRIVE!

Driving is a right of passage and a privilege. The Nassau County Police Department is concerned about new driver safety and is vigilant about enforcing the traffic laws. Teens have an average of three accidents between ages 16 and 20. Before turning over the keys, take the time to make sure that your teen understands the family rules and the rules of the road and the importance of not breaking them.

SAFETY COMES FIRST



Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for 15 to 20 year olds, accounting for forty percent of all teen deaths (*National Highway Traffic Safety Administration*). While this age group makes up only 10% of the U. S. population, they account for 14% of all crash fatalities.

Do not hesitate to discuss the following rules with your teen:

- Never drive without a license.
- Obey speed limit and traffic laws .
- Wear a seat belt at all times.
- Do not talk on a cell phone if it is not hands-free. It is a hazard and is against the law.
- Be 100% sober. (*Driving while impaired is a leading cause of fatalities in vehicle crashes. Tell your teen to call you if they have been drinking so that you can come and get him/her.*)
- Do not drive if upset.
- Keep the music down.
- Do not drive friends or family members for the first six to twelve months after getting a license.
- Let a parent know where he/she is driving and when he/she is returning.
- Abide by curfews. (*Limit night driving – most accidents happen between 9 PM and 2 AM.*)
- Make sure that car is in good condition - driver's side airbag, a good safety rating.

- If the BAC is .02% or more, but not more than .07%, your teen will be charged with the traffic offense of “driving after having consumed alcohol.” Your teen will appear before an administrative law judge of the Department of Motor Vehicles.
- If your BAC is more than .05% but not more than .07%, the police will have the option of charging your teen with “driving while ability is impaired by alcohol” (DWAI).
- If the BAC is more than .07% but less than .08%, your teen will be charged with the offense of “driving while ability is impaired by alcohol” (DWAI), and for those with a BAC of .08% or more, the charge will be “driving while intoxicated” (DWI). If your teen is charged with either DWI or DWAI, he/she will be arrested and dealt with in criminal court.
- If your teen is charged and if the administrative law judge makes a finding that your teen drove after having consumed alcohol: (*While being charged with driving after consuming alcohol is considered a serious violation of the law, it is not designated as a crime and your teenager cannot go to jail for violating this law. However, your teen will have the driving license suspended for six months and pay a civil penalty of \$125 and an additional \$100 fee when the license is returned. If your teen is charged with having driven after having consumed alcohol, the charge will remain on the record for three years or until age 21, whichever is longer.*)
- If your teen has prior alcohol-related traffic offenses, the license will be revoked for one year or until he/she reaches the age of 21,



With more people travelling throughout our county than ever before, the Nassau County Police Department hopes this Public Advisory has been informative for you and your teen. We wish you and your teen safe and happy motoring!

DRINKING AND DRIVING

NYS Zero Tolerance Law

In 1996, the New York State's "Zero Tolerance" Law took effect. The Zero Tolerance law applies to a person under age 21 who operates a motor vehicle with a blood alcohol concentration of .02% or more but not more than .07%. Even though the law is called "zero tolerance," the minimum blood alcohol concentration is .02 and not 0. This is because certain cough syrups and mouthwashes contain alcohol, and since some families will permit the consumption of small amounts of alcohol as part of religious or family functions. The Legislature decided to set the standard at .02% in order to address only those young people who had willfully consumed alcohol and operated a motor vehicle.

- If your child is younger than 21 years of age and is stopped and has appeared to have consumer alcohol... your teenager will be given a breathalyzer test at the police station to determine the blood alcohol level.
- If your teenager refuses to take a breath test, your teen will be subject to a license revocation of at least one year.

BLOOD ALCOHOL CONTENT (BAC) AND CHARGES		
BAC	Offense	Procedures
.02% or more but not more than .07%	Driving after having consumed alcohol (a zero tolerance violation)	Administrative Hearing
more than .05% and less than .08%	Driving while ability is impaired by alcohol (DWAI)	Criminal Court
.08% or more	Driving while intoxicated (DWI)	Criminal Court

In order to have a smooth transition from two wheels to four, the Nassau County Police Department offers you this brief roadmap to helping your teen obtain the proper driver license.

IMPORTANT NYS DRIVER INFORMATION

• Visit the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles' website at www.nydmv.state.ny.us. If you don't have Internet access at home, you can pick up printed materials at your local DMV office or request them by phone at 1-800-DIAL-DMV. The website has information on driver services such as:

1. Renewing a driver license or a learner permit
2. Applying for a first-time driver license
3. Replacing a driver license or a learner permit
4. Driver's manual and practice quiz
5. Scheduling a road test...

- Review the materials and make sure that your teen understands them and studies them.
- Consider calling your insurance agent for available videos, booklets and other information for new drivers.
- Check the rates for having a teen driver on your policy. If you have more than one vehicle, choose one with an airbag if possible, and find out which one will have the lower rate and best safety rating.



PROCESS FOR GETTING A DRIVER LICENSE

The process to apply for a non-commercial driver license in NYS includes the following steps:

- Applying for a learner permit. (see *More About...The Learner's Permit* on page 4)
- Paying the application fee and the driver license fee.
- Passing the vision test and the written test.
- Receiving the permit.
- Practicing for the road test .
- Taking a driver education course or a DMV-approved pre-licensing course. (*Check with your local school district for driver's education courses. Most commercial driving schools licensed by the DMV offer the DMV-approved pre-licensing course. Look in the telephone directory under "Driving Instruction."*)
- Scheduling a road test. (*Use the driver education certificate or pre-licensing course certificate to make an appointment for a road test by phone or on-line. The test date is normally from three to ten weeks after the date that you make the appointment.*)
- Passing the road test. (*The license examiner gives an interim driver license that is valid for 90 days. Keep it with the learners permit as proof of having a driving license. If the teen is 16 or 17 years of age, he/she will receive a New York State Junior License. See More About...The Junior Driver on page 5.*)



REGIONAL RESTRICTIONS FOR LIMITED JUNIOR LICENSE *

New York City (5 Boroughs)	Long Island (Nassau & Suffolk)	Upstate (All Other Counties**)
5 AM - 9 PM	5 AM - 9 PM	5 AM - 9 PM
One must NOT drive.	One may drive alone ONLY directly between home and employment, a work-study program, a course at a college, university, or registered evening high school, a driver education course, or while engaged in farm employment.	One may drive without being accompanied.
	One may drive only when accompanied by a licensed parent, guardian, person "in loco parentis," driver education teacher, or driving school instructor.	
9 PM - 5 AM	9 PM - 5 AM	9 PM - 5 AM
One must NOT drive.	One may drive alone ONLY directly between the home and a work-study program, a course at a college, university, or registered evening high school, a driver education course, or while engaged in farm employment.	One may drive alone ONLY when traveling directly between the home and employment or a school course. All other driving must be accompanied by one's licensed parent, guardian, or person "in loco parentis."

REGIONAL RESTRICTIONS FOR LIMITED JUNIOR LICENSE *

New York City (5 Boroughs)	Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester, Rock- land & Putnam	Upstate (All Other Counties**)
5 AM - 9 PM	5 AM - 9 PM	5 AM - 9 PM
<p>NO Driving Alone</p> <p>One may drive under the immediate supervision of one's parent, guardian, person "in loco parentis," driver education teacher or driving school instructor who is at least age 21 and has a license valid for the vehicle being driven.</p> <p>Vehicle must have dual</p>	<p>NO Driving Alone</p> <p>One may drive under the immediate supervision of one's parent, guardian, person "in loco parentis," driver education teacher, driving school instructor, or any person designated in writing by one's parent, guardian or person "in loco parentis" who is at least age 21 and have a license valid for the vehicle being driven.</p>	<p>One MAY drive alone for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. School course or activity 2. Employment 3. Medical appointment 4. Regularly-scheduled daycare for your child or a child of immediate family member <p>All other driving must be under the immediate supervision of a person who is at least age 21 and has a</p>
9 PM - 5 AM	9 PM - 5 AM	9 PM - 5 AM
<p>One MUST NOT drive alone.</p> <p>One may drive under the immediate supervision of one's parent, guardian, or person "in loco parentis", who is at least age 21 and has a license valid for the vehicle being driven. Vehicle must have dual controls (dual brakes).</p>	<p>One MUST NOT drive alone.</p> <p>One may drive under the immediate supervision of one's parent, guardian, or person "in loco parentis", who is at least age 21 and has a license valid for the vehicle being driven.</p>	<p>One MAY drive alone for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. School course 2. Employment 3. Medical appointment <p>All other driving must be under the immediate supervision of one's parent, guardian, person "in loco parentis," who is at least age 21 and has a license valid for the ve-</p>

*For junior drivers who receive a permit on or after 09/01/03 and who pass a road test within the FIRST six months of valid permit status.

** See "Driving Alone with a Junior License or Limited Junior License."

MORE ABOUT...

THE LEARNER'S PERMIT

A Learner's Permit allows your teen to be on the road legally in order to learn how to drive. Either you or your school district's Driver's Education Program official can take your teen out on the road.

- Your teen must be at least 16 years old.
- Your teen must take the DMV written Exam or present a Driver Education Student Certificate of Completion - form MV285. The New York written DMV exam is 20 questions and your teen must get 14 correct in order to pass.

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APPLICATION FOR DRIVER LICENSE OR NON-DRIVER ID CARD

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

This form is also available on DMV's web site at: www.nysdmv.com

Batch File No. _____

Image No. _____

LRC LAM LRN LDP LNO
LIS LIN POR PAM PRN

I AM APPLYING FOR A (check any that apply):

☒ Learner Permit ☐ ID card ☐ Renewal ☐ Replacement ☐ Change ☐ NYS license in exchange for a license from another US State, the District of Columbia or Canadian Province

VOTER REGISTRATION QUESTIONS (Please answer "yes" or "no")

If you are not registered to vote where you live now, would you like to apply to register, or if you are changing your address, would you like the Board of Elections to be notified? ☐ YES - Complete Voter Registration Application Section ☐ NO - I Decline to Register/Already Registered/I do not want to notify the Board of Elections of my change of address.

NOTE: If you do not check either box, you will be considered to have decided not to register to vote.

THE JUNIOR DRIVER

A Junior Driver is under the age of 18 and has been issued a Learner's Permit or a Junior License (issued after passing the road test).

The DMV issues a limited-use junior license to a junior driver who passes a road test during the first six months after the learner permit was issued. It allows driving without supervision during specific hours and within specific geographical boundaries. A supervising driver must supervise the junior driver at all other times. Six months after the learner permit of that driver was issued, the DMV will issue a normal junior license to replace the limited-use junior license.

A junior driver cannot operate a vehicle that has more than two passengers who are under the age of 21 unless a parent, a guardian, or a driving instructor also rides in the vehicle. The exception to this rule is if the passengers are immediate family members.

When the law requires supervision of the junior driver, only the supervising driver can ride in the front seat. The supervising driver must be 21 years of age or older with a valid driver license.

For more information, see the brochure, "Learner Permits and

MORE ABOUT...

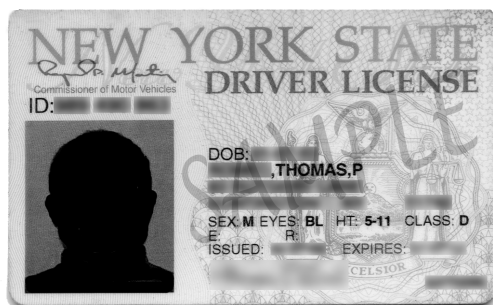
AFTER PASSING THE ROAD TEST

Receiving a license:

As described on page 4, the teen receives an interim driver license. The teen must now get a photo driver license:

If your teen has a learner permit valid for *more* than one year from the date when it was issued, the NYS DMV will send the photo driver license by mail. The local DMV office does not have that available at their location.

If your teen has a learner permit valid for *up to* one year from the date it was issued, he/she must apply for the photo driver license at the local DMV office. Wait at least five days after the road test to do so. Bring the interim driver license, proof of identity and the driver license fees. Your teen will have the photo taken at the DMV office. At the DMV office, your teen will receive a new interim driver license without a photo that is valid for 90 days. The photo driver license will be mailed to your teen within approximately four weeks.



Probation period:

As a new driver, your teen has a six-month probationary period that begins on the date of the successful road test. There is no probationary period if he/she has held a valid NYS driver license and passed the road test to add or change license class.

Suspension of the license:

The driver license is suspended if your teen commits specific violations during the probationary period (see above).

For more information, read the NYS DMV brochure, "Suppose Your License Were Taken Away".

YOUR TEEN IS ON THE ROAD

Day and night, Nassau County police officers patrol throughout your community to help ensure your safety and the well-being of your fellow residents. We remind you that it is vital for your teen to fully understand and to heed the restrictions of the specific driving permit or license he/she has been issued.

REGIONAL RESTRICTIONS FOR A JUNIOR PERMIT

New York City (5 Boroughs)	Long Island (Nassau & Suffolk)	Upstate (All Other Counties)
5 AM - 9 PM	5 AM - 9 PM	5 AM - 9 PM
One must drive ONLY under the immediate supervision of one's:	One must drive ONLY under the immediate supervision of:	One must drive ONLY under the immediate supervision of :
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parent 2. Guardian 3. Person "in loco parentis" 4. Driver Education Teacher 5. Driving School Instructor 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One's Parent 2. One's Guardian 3. One's Person "in loco parentis" 4. One's Driver Education Teacher 5. One's Driving School Instructor 6. Anyone who has been designated in writing by One's parent, guardian or person "in loco parentis" 	<p>A person who is age 21 or older and has a license valid for the vehicle being driven.</p>
The person above must be at least age 21 and have a license valid for the vehicle being driven.	The person above must be at least age 21 and have a license	<p>One must drive only under the immediate supervision of one's:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parent 2. Guardian 3. Person "in loco parentis" 4. Driver Education Teacher 5. Driving School Instructor
Vehicle must have dual		
9 PM - 5 AM	9 PM - 5 AM	
You must NOT drive.	You must NOT drive.	The person above must be at least age 21 and have a license valid for the vehicle being